

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BAMAko 02897 181053Z

13R
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ONY-00 ISO-00 /021 W
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R 181010Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY BAMAko
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4499
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BAMAko 2897

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AFSP, ML
SUBJECT: AID IDI POSITIONS

REF: (A) STATE 201752, (B) BAMAko 2751, (C) BAMAko 2670 NOTAL

1. CHARGE CONCURRED IN CDO'S REQUEST FOR THE FOUR IDI'S CONTAINED IN REF B ON BASIS OF GENERAL BELIEF THAT US INTERESTS IN MALI WILL BE OF LONG-STANDING NATURE, THAT OUR INVOLVEMENT HERE IN HUMANITARIAN AND DEVELOPMENT AID IS PERMANENT, REGARDLESS OF ANNUAL US BUDGET CYCLES, AND THAT A LONG-TERM APPROACH TO THE PROBLEMS OF ORGANIZING AND USING OUR RESOURCES IS ESSENTIAL. THIS APPROACH RECOGNIZES THAT INCREASING INVOLVEMENT WILL, IN THE NEAR TERM, REQUIRE ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL, AS WELL AS PROVIDE VALUABLE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR AID INTERNS. THE FOLLOWING FACTORS BUTTRESS THIS BELIEF:

- A. SECRETARY'S DAKAR AND BOSTON SPEECHES LAID DOWN GENERAL POLICY OF INCREASING US AID TO SAHEL IN COMING YEARS;
 - B. CONTINUING EXPRESSIONS OF CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN ASSISTING THE RURAL POOR IN THE POOREST COUNTRIES, E.G. MALI;
 - C. AID WASHINGTON'S RECENT APPROVAL OF TWO CROP PRODUCTION PROJECTS WHICH WILL RUN FOR 4-5 YEARS, AND ANTICIPATED FY 77 AND FY 78 RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT START-UPS;
 - D. PHASED REDUCTIONS IN REGIONAL AID SUPPORT STAFF AT REDSO ABIDJAN;
 - E. FOREIGN MINISTER CHARLES SAMBA CISSOKHO'S ASSURANCES (REF C, PARA 9) TO CHARGE DAWKINS AUGUST 2 THAT AN INCREASED
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US EMBASSY PRESENCE IN BAMAko WOULD BE WARMLY WELCOMED;

F. INCREASING BILATERAL AID FROM EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, CANADA AND ARAB STATES, AS WELL AS HIGHER LEVELS OF MULTILATERAL AID, PARTICULARLY THE EEC (FED) AND DEVELOPMENT BANKS SHOULD ENSURE THAT US EXPOSURE IN MALI, AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL--NOW 5-7 PERCENT--SHOULD NOT RISE MUCH ABOVE 12-15 PERCENT EVEN BY 1982.

G. CONGRESSIONAL AND AID WASHINGTON INSISTENCE ON SUBMISSION OF HIGHLY TECHNICAL DOCUMENTS, SURVEYS, STUDIES, ASSESSMENTS, JUSTIFICATIONS AND FISCAL CONTROLS, ALL OF WHICH REQUIRE QUALIFIED PERSONNEL;

H. BELIEF THAT BY EARLY 1978, WHEN IDI'S WILL ACTUALLY ARRIVE, POST ADMINISTRATIVE CAPABILITIES WILL HAVE BEEN UPGRADED TO THE POINT WHERE SUPPORT FOR ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL CAN BE PROVIDED BY EMBASSY WITHOUT UNDUE DIFFICULTY.

2. IDI'S WERE REQUIRED IN SPECIFIC SPECIALITIES-- RURAL DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMICS, AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS AND ANTHROPOLOGY/RURAL SOCIOLOGY. AN INTERN, FOR EXAMPLE, WITH ONLY A GENERAL LIBERAL ARTS BACKGROUND WOULD NOT BE ACCEPTABLE. WE BELIEVE THAT THE EXPERTISE THEY WOULD BRING TO THE JOB, AND THE TRAINING WE COULD OFFER, WOULD MEET EMBASSY AND AID WASHINGTON OBJECTIVES.

3. EMBASSY IS WORKING ON LONG-TERM PROJECTION OF US INTERESTS IN MALI--OUT TO 1990--DETAILING ASSUMPTIONS WE HAVE MADE AS TO US OBJECTIVES, FUNCTIONS AND RESOURCES WHICH WILL BE REQUIRED AND POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT WITHIN WHICH THIS WILL TAKE PLACE. THIS SHOULD PERMIT US TO PROJECT PERSONNEL STRENGTHS REQUIRED FOR SEVERAL YEARS INTO THE FUTURE. AT PRESENT, ADDITION OF FOUR INTERNS IN 1978 WOULD FIT INTO PATTERN.

4. THIS CABLE DRAFTED BY CHARGE DAWKINS PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR R&R IN PARIS AUGUST 15. REQUEST THAT FURTHER TRAFFIC THIS SUBJECT BE SENT INFO PARIS FOR MALONE.
RAWSON

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